new construction. This is not the case—at least, it is not to an observable degree. All the stones used in new building in the village are freshly quarried. Perhaps the reason for this is that nearly all the extra large recognized corners, nearly all of whose are emigrants or their descendants. Even the villagers now admit that "they will never come back," but their property rights are still maintained, either because the older emigrants hesitate to relinquish their claims or because their American-born children are unlicensed, both of which prevent local disposition of the property. However, most of the new raised houses were of the old style, whose walls would naturally go to pieces if not roofed. Consequently, the roofs were removed so that the very valuable timbers in them could be used for other purposes. This hastened the partial collapse of many of the buildings' walls.

HOUSEHOLD ARRANGEMENT AND FURNISHINGS

Nearly every house has its own cistern (*sihr*), either within the building or just outside it. The water is entirely water rain water drawn from the roof of the house and conducted to the cistern, nowadays, by sheet-iron pipes. This is much more efficient than the older method of letting the water flow down a shallow vertical trough on the outside of the wall of the building. The cisterns have circular openings raised off the ground or flush on a stone or concrete curbing. The opening is fitted, more or less tightly, with a wooden cover.

It is one of the women's jobs to draw water from the cistern by means of a sheet-iron, European-made, bucket attached to a chain or rope. The water needed for the day is stored in large, two-handled, pointed-bottom jars (*jarra*), of porous earthenware, which stand in wooden frames in the kitchen corner, or the kitchen room if there is one. From the *jarra*, water is transferred to cooking utensils, to the ornated pottery or glass drinking jars (*dwiq*), and to the two to three gallon, semi-cylindrical metal tanks in which washing water is stored. These long spouts on outside wall or in the wash room if there is one. The tanks are called *kanafiyat*, a term primarily applied to the small brass spigots with which they are fitted. The term is derived from the Hanafi school of Muslim jurisprudence which decided that the use of spigots was not a violation of the provisions of the Koran. Now the *kanafiyat* are usually finds a dish for soap and a towel-rail. A few houses are equipped with hand-pumps, a raised tank, and a limited system of pipes and spigots. This, however, is unusual.

The interior arrangement of the one-room house is essentially the same in every one, although of course there are many minor variations. The following description is composite. On entering the front door, one will observe that the room is divided into two sections, front and back. The division is effected by tall cabinets, with doors and drawers, placed across the room. These are used for keeping clothes, dishes, and so on. This means of division may be supplemented by a curtain. In the front section, a long wooden seat, really a bench with a back and

possibility few, of the estates are the properties of old, wealthy families of Ottoman times, which still exist in Lebanon, such as the lands belonging to the families of Arslan, Jumblatt, Chehab, Khazen, but many of these have been broken up by the Moslem laws of inheritance. Other estates have originated from direct grants made by Turkish Sultans to influential politicians, as for example the two very large estates in the Beqa and the Litani valley. Others too were formed at the time of the general registration of property undertaken by the Ottoman Government when chiefs of tribes or villages registered tribal land in their names as their private property. Uncertainty about legal title to land gives the educated classes frequent opportunity for ousting peasant owners, and whole villages have come into the possession of rival groups of city notables, as a result of litigation among the villagers who have sought their assistance in establishing their title.

While the land-tenure system is thus a result of peasant poverty, it also perpetuates poverty by standing in the way of any long-term investment. The high percentage of fallow in Syria suggests a great waste of land resources, and there could certainly be some improvement in yields, even in dry land farming, if green crops were introduced more generally into the rotation. But the share-cropper has little incentive to improve the fertility of the land, since he has no certainty of tenure, and since the landlord will take 50 per cent of any increase. Since the landlords are not as a rule directly interested in farming, they do not themselves undertake long-term improvements in the land.

Three case studies illustrate the ways in which the land-tenure system hinders advance.[1]

One study relates to the large estate of Misherfe, near Homs in central Syria. This is 24,000 acres in extent and includes five villages, with 2,500 inhabitants. It is very extensively cultivated, only one-third of the area, 8,000 acres, being cropped each year. The land is divided into three parts, one with wheat, barley or *qamsi* (mixed grain), one ploughed but not sown, and some left fallow. A small area, 200 acres only, is irrigated, though water supplies are sufficient to irrigate much larger areas.

[1] These studies, which were prepared for the M.E.S.C., are not at present available in print.

[illegible]

of mixture and spillage. The area of protected ocean within [illegible] be established in each case by government decision.

Permits and Concessions ([illegible])

Below from subparagraph mention may be [illegible] a [illegible] of less than [illegible] of year two, may be used freely within [illegible] and may permit [illegible].

Temporary One-Year Permits. There can be granted under [illegible] for the exercise of emergency [illegible]. For the use of mixture of petrol [illegible], the elimination of materials, the cleaning and care of mixtures and mixtures, research work on ground waters and ephemeral water sources as well as the care of mixtures and the exploration of mixtures [illegible].

The act of authorization sets forth all the special conditions covered by the permit [illegible]. In the case of the managing of ground waters, if the request for connection to such ground waters [illegible], it is mentioned on having been acquired [illegible].

Temporary Permits for One to Forty Years. Permits for one to 40 years may be granted in the following cases:

1. the erection of permanent works for the draining of mines or for cleaning up of mine conveyors;
2. the use of mixer power;
3. the drainage of mountainside and their reclamation;
4. the use of ground, reflection, mineral or thermal waters.

Rules and regulations setting forth general conditions, assumed to be taken, term of the permit and time allowed for the exploitation works shall be issued simultaneously with the permit [illegible].

Notification of the lapsing or change of such permits must be given to the interested parties at least two years before the expiration date; otherwise the permits shall be automatically prolonged for a period equal to half of the original term of validity. When the origi-

[illegible]

303 [illegible] 404 [illegible] for the agricultural use of water may be reserved for a period of 40 years.

Concessions. The projects envisaged above require generic cross-dams. They are projects of public utility. Such projects may not be issued for terms of more than 75 years.

A set of specifications prescribing conditions under which water may be drawn, the periods of use, measures for the care of water, the maximum power of the water fall, the deadline for the completion of the construction works, the term of the concession, the water reserve to be maintained, the financial conditions, the disposal of these works upon expiration of the concessions and a clause allowing for the eventual repurchase of the project shall accompany the concession.

[illegible] Fees and Royalties. Royalties shall be paid for generic and concessions to the state (Article 14).

303 404 Government Intervention. Rules and regulations on expropriation of land and water for public purposes shall be applicable to concessionaires, and the state may search such rights as well as other as desirable, against payment of an equitable indemnity, legally-governed reservation works (Article 17).

Servitudes and Indemnities

303 404 The beneficiary of a permit or concession may take advantage of all servitudes in the exercise of the work; namely, servitudes on occupation of private property, the strengthening of dams, the subversion of banks and of courts of land, etc. The government may, where no friendly agreements have been reached on specific points, authorize the concessionaire to avail himself of the above servitudes provided he deposits a guarantee against possible damages.

Article 18 stipulates the indemnity to be paid by a concessionaire wishing to make use of certain servitudes as well as the arbitration procedure to be followed to settle disputes which may arise.

The concessionaire has the right to repurchase private ti-